

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Before entry of the present amendment, Claims 1-11 were pending, and presently, Claims 1-11 are allowable if an objection to Claim 1 is overcome. Claims 1 and 6-8 have been amended.

The drawings were objected to for failing to provide "means attachable to each of said storage compartment" (from Claim 8), and for failing to provide reference numerals 6, 48 and 50.

Claim 8 was amended to recite (quoted for convenience and with deletion and addition marks included for reference): "The improvement of Claim 1 further comprising a plurality of channels, wherein each one of said plurality of channels comprise at least one dowel cooperatively permitting attachment of straps, bands[[,]] and rope [[and other means of securement, said means]] attachable to each of said storage compartments." Thus, "means" has been deleted from the claim language. As such, the applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the figures (via Claim 8) is withdrawn.

Figures 1 and 4 have been amended in a separately attached drawing correction. In Figure 1, original reference numeral "7" has been deleted and replaced by reference numeral "6" (tailgate), and new reference numeral "7" has been added to indicate the cargo bed of the truck (shown in phantom lines). In Figure 4, numerals "48" (second storage cell) and "50" (door) have been added in accordance with the written specification, thereby avoiding the addition of new matter. Thus, the applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the figures is withdrawn.

The specification was objected to for misidentifying "pin apertures" as reference numeral "94"

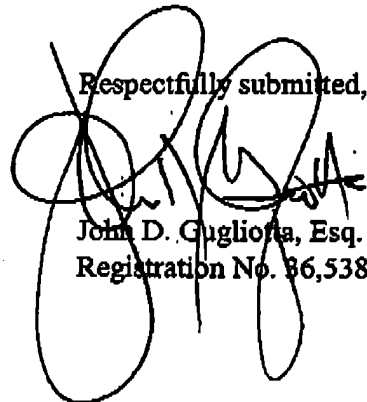
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rather than "94b". The specification was amended to change the identification as indicated. Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the specification is withdrawn.

Claim 1 was objected to for using "tail wall" instead of "tailgate". Therefore, Claim 1 was amended to reflect such a change. Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that the objection to Claim 1 is withdrawn.

Therefore, in view of foregoing amendments and clarifications, the applicant submits that allowance of the present application and all remaining claims, as amended, is in order and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. D. Gugliotta', is written over the typed name and registration number.

John D. Gugliotta, Esq.
Registration No. 86,538

The Law Offices of John D. Gugliotta
202 Delaware Building
137 South Main Street
Akron, OH 44308
(330) 253-5678
Facsimile (330) 253-6658